

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00
SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
INRE-00 PA-01 /101 W
-----004791 172058Z /66

O 171931Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9764
AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
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AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 07607

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: WHO, IS, IF

SUBJ: WHO STATE OF PLAY ON THE DRAFT ARAB RESOLUTION

1. THROUGHOUT TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION CONTINUED TO LOBBY HARD WITH ARAB AND G-77 DELEGATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO MODIFY THE ARAB DRAFT REPORTED GENEVA 7388 BEFORE IT WAS CAST IN FINAL FORM. I CALLED TUESDAY ON SAUDI AND IRANIAN AMBASSADORS AND ON WEDNESDAY ON THE AMBASSADORS OF JORDAN, LEBANON, MOROCCO AND SYRIA. DR. BRYANT AND MYSELF, TOGETHER WITH BOB ANDREW AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR, CARL GRIP, MET WEDNESDAY WITH THE KUWAITI MINISTER OF HEALTH, DR. AL-AWADI, WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF THIS ASSEMBLY, AND WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION AS WELL. THE SAUDI, JORDANIAN AND LEBANESE AMBASSADORS SAID THAT THEY HAD TRIED HARD IN THE INITIAL STAGES OF THE DRAFTING EXERCISE TO GET A MORE MODERATE STATEMENT. SOME OF THEM, PARTICULARLY THE LEBANESE, EXPRESSED DISMAY AT THE HARSH TONE OF THE FINAL DRAFT. THEY ALL WENT TO CONSIDERABLE LENGTH TO EXPLAIN THE INTERNAL DYNAMICS OF ARAB UNITY AND WHY IT IS THAT WE WERE VERY LIKELY GOING TO FIND THAT
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THE MORE RADICAL ARAB VIEWS WOULD FINALLY PREVAIL.

2. IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE SEEN AT LEAST TWO FURTHER VERSIONS OF THE ARAB DRAFT - THE LAST ONE BEING THAT WHICH WAS DISCUSSED LAST NIGHT BY THE AFRICAN CAUCUS. WE WERE TOLD TODAY BY DR. AL-AWADI, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WOULD BE YET ANOTHER VERSION WHICH WOULD INCORPORATE CHANGES SUGGESTED BY THE AFRICANS LAST NIGHT. HE AND THE EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE INDICATED THAT THEY WERE GOING TO TRY TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, IF POSSIBLE, SOME OF OUR CONCERNS WITH RESPECT TO THOSE REFERENCES IN THE DRAFT WHICH WOULD IMPLY THAT WHO SHOULD BE A RESOURCE TRANSFER MECHANISM TO THE PLO AND ARAB ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THEY WOULD TRY TO DO THIS BY MAKING CLEAR THAT THE MONIES THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT WERE TO BE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE SINCE RECEIVED CONFLICTING REPORTS FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT THE HARD-LINERS ARE STILL HOLDING OUT TO KEEP THIS PART OF THE TEXT UNMODIFIED, AND THE SYRAN AMBASSADOR, WHO IS PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN THE DRAFTING, FIRMLY REJECTED THESE POINTS IN OUR CONVERSATION WITH HIM.

3. WITH RESPECT TO WHAT WAS SECTION C OF THE ORIGINAL DRAFT (GENEVA 7388) THE VERSION THAT WE SAW THIS MORNING WAS EVEN MORE OFFENSIVE AND CONTAINED A SERIES OF CONDEMNATORY PARAGRAPHS. THE ONLY CONSOLATION THAT WE COULD DRAW FROM THE MANY CONVERSATIONS THAT WE HAD IS THAT NONE OF THE ARAB DELEGATIONS, SAVE PERHAPS THE SYRIANS AND IRAQIS, SEEMED TO WANT TO PRESS ON TO THE APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 7. INDEED, THE KUWAITIS AND OTHERS ASSURED US THAT THIS WOULD NOT HAPPEN.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 07607

4. WE WERE IN TOUCH WITH DANISH AMBASSADOR KASTOFT (WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE EC-9) TODAY WHO REPORTED THAT THE NINE HAVE PRETTY MUCH DECIDED, ON THE BASIS OF THE LATEST DRAFT, THAT THEY WILL VOTE AGAINST IT. KASTOFT SAID THAT THE PROBLEM FOR THE EUROPEANS WOULD ARISE IF THEY WERE ASKED TO VOTE ON THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE RESOLUTION. ALL OF THE EUROPEANS FIND THE THIRD SECTION (C) TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE, AND THEY FEEL THAT MOST PARTS OF (B) ARE UNREALISTIC. THEY ARE RESERVING THEIR POSITION ON THE FOURTH SECTION (D) BUT WE MAY WELL FIND THAT SOME OF THEM MIGHT BE INCLINED TO GO ALONG WITH THE FIRST SECTION (A).

5. WE HAVE SOME INDICATION THAT THE FINAL ARAB DRAFT MIGHT GO TO THE PRINTERS THIS EVENING AND MAY BE ON THE TABLE TOMORROW, WHICH WOULD MEAN THAT IT COULD BE TAKEN UP AS EARLY AS FRIDAY. WE HAVE BEEN TRYING THROUGH BOTH OUR ARAB CONTACTS AS WELL AS THE SECRETARIAT, HOWEVER, TO GET THIS TIME TABLE PUT BACK. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TO MODERATE THE DRAFT, BUT THINK THAT OUR STRATEGY SHOULD BEGIN NOW TO FOCUS ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH WE SHOULD FIGHT TO GET OUR GROUP B FRIENDS TO VOTE AGAINST THE DRAFT AND, IF POSSIBLE, TO GET AS MANY G-77 COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE TO
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ABSTAIN OR BE OUT OF THE ROOM. WE OF COURSE WILL BE VOTING AGAINST THE DRAFT AND WE PLAN TO MAKE STATEMENTS WHICH WILL DEPLORE ITS POLITICAL EXCESSES AND MAKE CLEAR INTER ALIA OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE ASSESSED BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION IS NOT TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSES

OUTLINED IN THE SECOND SECTION (B) WE WOULD APPRECIATE
ANY FURTHER GUIDANCE THAT THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO
PROVIDE. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LOBBYING, AGREEMENT DRAFT, PROGRESS REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA07607
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780208-0635
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780551/aaaabqot.tel
Line Count: 227
Litigation Code IDs:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2669453
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WHO STATE OF PLAY ON THE DRAFT ARAB RESOLUTION
TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG, WHO
To: STATE BERN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c5283e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014